

**Hurricane Harvey Response 2017
Community Liaison (CL) Report**

TO: Janetta Coats
FROM: Paula Flores-Gregg, Pamela Houston and LaTonya Sanders
SUBJECT: Daily Report: Port Arthur/Beaumont
COUNTY: Jefferson
DATE: 9/20/2017

SUMMARY:

- Participated in the 8:30 a.m. daily conference call.
- Strategic Meeting to review list of contacts/leads and plan action moving forward.
- Teleconference with OEJTIA Director about temporary debris transfer stations near EJ communities.
- Requested information from OEJTIA Director about Valero storage tank fire to share with community advocates in Port Arthur
- Completed a list of things that should be considered by all Community Liaisons when engaging EJ communities requested by the OEJTIA Director
- Followed up with Hilton Kelley about actions EPA was taking in regards to debris transfer locations approved by TCEQ and visited site.
- Provided links to Ike Mills about FEMA job opportunities for community members
- Provided contacts to Councilmember Ward III for Texas Housers and Texas Legal Aid
- Contacted Norman Bellard, of Lamar State University to arrange appointment
- Contacted International Student Affairs of Lamar State University to arrange appointment
- Contacted FEMA regarding available support for individuals without legal status and children considered “dreamers”
- Connected Vietnamese community to Legacy Clinic services

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS

- Legacy Community Health is looking for opportunities to reach more community members that need health assistance. This information should be shared widely via the web: www.legacycommunityhealth.org

COMMUNITY CONCERNS

- Dumping of debris right across the street from homes is still an issue. Corner of 19th and Nashville. The contractors stated that they have permission city of Port Arthur and TCEQ.

UPCOMING:

- Meeting with the Johnnie Roberts, Administrative Director of Jefferson County Health Department at 10:00 AM, in Beaumont
- Meeting with Norman Bellard, Executive Assistant to the President, Lamar University at 11:00 AM in Beaumont
- Visiting the new FEMA Disaster Recovery Center in Port Arthur, TX.
- Will continue research service providers and connect resources to needs
- Islamic Center would like us to join them when they pass out supplies again on Saturday September 23, 2017.

TO: Janetta Coats
FROM: Angela Hays and Pamela Houston
SUBJECT: Daily Report: Port Arthur/Beaumont
COUNTY: Polk
DATE: 9/20/2017

SUMMARY:

- Participated in the 8:30 a.m. daily conference call.
- Strategic Meeting to review list of contacts/leads and plan action moving forward.
- Met with Larry Pitts Emergency Manager Coordinator for Polk County
 - Property and Roadway damage
 - No wind damage, all water damage
 - Residential homes effected are mainly Trinity River and dam adjacent, in Goodrich City
 - TCEQ has already assessed the debris.
 - Low amount of debris to be removed – estimated one-day haul
 - County has utilized social media in order to inform residence of available programs
 - Red Cross and FEMA are available for assistance at the Livingston Library
 - 10am to 6pm Monday thru Friday
 - 10am to 2pm Saturday
 - Resources are stretched thin but community has pulled together for recovery efforts.
- Visited the Livingston Library and Courtney Comstock, Assistant Emergency Manager Coordinator for Polk County
 - Toured facility
 - FEMA connecting with residence
 - Lone star food card available for qualifying residence for one week of food
 - Texas Workforce Commission assisting residence with unemployment
 - Red Cross to launch new website with information tomorrow
 - Debris removal has required modifications to contract including monitoring and sorting. TCEQ has approved removal
 - Livingston has approximately 5000 residences and it is estimated that 1100 have been effected by the flood waters
 - Water well testing fees have been waved for residence along the Trinity River
 - Free TDAP and Flu shots are available this Friday

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS

Larry Pitts, the Emergency Management Coordinator in Polk County commented that the county is recovering well and stated that they are in “good shape compared to other counties”

COMMUNITY CONCERNS

Medical device needs for residence

UPCOMING:

- Paula will continue research for the Catholic Diocese, FEMA, and service providers
- Reconnect to Hilton Kelley, to follow-up on concerns with debris in EJ Communities and EPA’s response to the Valero storage tank fire.
- Islamic Center would like us to join them when they pass out supplies again on Saturday September 23, 2017.
- Continue to connect with Polk and Harris Counties for more information

TO: Janetta Coats
FROM: Magda Dallemagne
SUBJECT: Daily Report, Port Arthur/Beaumont
COUNTY: Hardin
DATE: 9-20-2017

SUMMARY:

- Participated in the 8:30 a.m. daily conference call.
- Talked with Theresa Wigley, Emergency Management Coordinator for Hardin County via phone. Meeting set for tomorrow 10am.
- Visited Lumberton High School, which is an NTG safe Shelter, FEMA and Legal Aid had set up areas to communicate with residents. Spoke with Gretchen Scoggins, Coordinator of Special Programs and Communications of the school.
 - Discussed several areas severely affected by Harvey, FEMA is said to be making rounds in these areas
 - Off of Rt 96
 - Sour Lake
 - Pinewood
 - Areas between FM421 & 105
 - Asked for info to be disseminated to community. Have a very strong and effective means to communicate with most residents in area.
 - Specifically list of official DRC and agencies which can help those affected
- Drove through some areas of Hardin County, took notes on locations to visit and look into.
 - Crestwood Baptist Church
 - Pinewood fire station
 - Farm Bureau

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS

- Several asking for more information regarding FEMA and locations to get help or disaster response for affected persons.
 - It was suggested to compile general list of all DRCs in the area to be posted for the public and widely distributed
- Questions regarding renters rights and legal options for persons being evicted

COMMUNITY CONCERNS

- Several evictions of rental properties, rental homes specifically, owners throwing out resident's possessions or refusing to fix damaged property for continued use.

TO: Janetta Coates and Mitty Mohon
FROM: David Bryan/Jeremy Ford/Devin Pollock/Jim Stevens
SUBJECT: Hurricane Harvey Response 2017
COUNTY: Jasper and Newton Counties
DATE: 9/19/17

SUMMARY:

One Team Jasper/Newton member was sited at the Deweyville Disaster Response Center today. Several difficult

cases with people who are just now returning to their homes and needing information about how to clean black mold. One elderly, disabled woman was distraught regarding how she was going to get her house cleaned out without anyone to help her. Team is working with the Orange County team to connect her to religious organization or nonprofit to get her some help. She is sleeping in her home despite the black mold. Most of the questions are regarding what materials should be used to clean black mold and resources to accomplish it. Operations were much smoother with almost 60 people visiting the center with six interested in EPA's materials.

The remaining Team Jasper/Newton members were sited at the Jasper County Courthouse Annex where the FEMA Disaster Survivor Assistance team continued to register flood victims for FEMA assistance. FEMA will open a full Disaster Response Center Wednesday, 9/20/17, with EPA and Small Business Administration personnel participating. Discussions are occurring with the EPA with county health officials. Jasper/Newton Community Liaison team will staff both centers but work toward sustaining the operations without CLs participating.

Team met with Co-Lead Mitty Mohon Tuesday afternoon, 9/19/17, to discuss how we have progressed and what information needs to be passed to our relief. Critical issues include reaching many people with limited resources.

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS

The Health Department still would like any information regarding private aerobic treatment systems. It is my understanding that Robert Houston in Region 6 was probably the appropriate contact. The systems we are talking about are private systems on private property. They have questions regarding how to decontaminate systems that failed during the storm and flooding. The question is whether EPA or TCEQ have documents explaining how to get the aerobic systems up and running properly after they were contaminated by flood water.

COMMUNITY CONCERNS

- Debris is still piled along the streets and roads throughout both counties. We have not heard confirmation on whether a contract has been let by the counties to pick up debris. It also does not appear that debris is being segregated from building and construction debris. Questions remain regarding hazardous waste being reported throughout the county that needs to be investigated, possibly by EPA CLs.
- Roads, bridges and infrastructure continues to be a concern in both counties with many of the roads that are normally used for school bus routes in need of drastic repair after being washed out by extensive flooding. Temporary fixes still provide safety concerns, especially when washed out roads have holes that require 10-15 dump trucks of rock to make them passable.

TEAM CONCERNS

- Team needs to have a better understanding of what is happening operationally in designated counties. Situational awareness allows resources to be used efficiently while also meeting the community needs in partnership with other agencies.
- Old-fashioned paper road maps have proved necessary in rural areas where there is little, sporadic or no wireless cell phone coverage.
- Team Jasper/Newton will be demobilizing end-of-day Friday and leaving on a jet plane Saturday morning.

As always, thanks for listening and your possible attention to these issues.

David, Jim, Jeremy and Devin